

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A communications interface device for transferring signals between a selected discrete Computer and a selected discrete telephone, the interface device comprising:

a housing;

interface means accommodated by the housing for processing signals received from the selected discrete Computer and the selected discrete telephone, the selected discrete computer being one of a plurality of different forms of computer capable of providing signals to the interface means and which can be processed by the interface means, and the selected discrete telephone being one of a plurality of different forms of telephone capable of providing signals to the interface means and which can be processed by the interface means;

first connecting means in or on the housing connectable selectively to the selected discrete Computer so that signals can be transmitted between the first connecting means and the selected discrete Computer, the first connecting means also being connected to the interface means; and

a second connecting means in or on the housing connectable selectively to the selected discrete telephone so that signals can be transmitted between the second connecting means and the selected discrete telephone, the second connecting means also being connected to the interface means,

the selected discrete computer being one of a plurality of discrete computers selectively connectable to the first connecting means and the selected discrete telephone being one of a plurality of discrete telephones selectively connectable to the second

connecting means.

2. (Original) A communications interface device as claimed in claim 1 wherein the housing comprises a substantially enclosed box, the box having an externally provided recess for receiving a telephone.

3. (Original) A device as claimed in claim 2 wherein the recess is configured so that the telephone is oriented in a substantially vertical position so that the antenna thereof is positioned for optimal signal strength.

4. (Previously amended) A communications interface device as claimed in claim 1 wherein the first connecting means is selected from one or more of an RJ-11 plug, a serial port, a USB port and an infra red transceiver.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Canceled)

8. (Original) A communications interface device as claimed in claim 1 wherein the telephone is a land telephone which transmits signals through cables.

9. (Original) A communications interface device as claimed in claim 1 wherein the telephone is a wireless telephone.

10. (Previously amended) A communications interface device as claimed in claim 9 wherein the wireless telephone is one selected from the group consisting of a cellular and PCS telephone.

11. (Previously amended) A communications interface device as claimed in claim 1 wherein the interface means is selected from one or more of a modem and an acoustic coupler.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously amended) A communications interface device as claimed in claim 11 further comprising a microphone and speaker forming part of the acoustic coupler.

15. (Previously amended) A communications interface device as claimed in claim 11 further comprising a headset plug for connection to a cellular phone, the headset plug forming the communications interface.

16. (Previously amended) A communications interface device as claimed in claim 1 wherein the second connecting means is selected from one or more of an RJ-11 port, a serial cable-port connector, and a 2.5mm cable.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Canceled)

19. (Original) A communications interface device as claimed in claim 1 further comprising a power source.

20. (Original) A device as claimed in claim 19 wherein the power source is a battery.

21. (Original) A device as claimed in claim 19 wherein the power source is external power and the device comprises an AC connector to receive such power.

22. (Original) A communications interface device as claimed in claim 1 wherein the first connecting means is a compact flash or PCMCIA connection.

23. (Original) A communications interface device as claimed in claim 1 wherein the second connecting means is a compact flash or PCMCIA connection.

24. (Original) A communications interface device as claimed in claim 1 further comprising a dial-up Internet access and software for use with a plurality of Computers having a plurality of operating systems.

25. (Currently amended) A communications interface device comprising:

    a casing comprising a base portion and a lid hinged thereto, the lid being movable between an open and closed position with respect to the base portion, the casing defining a chamber;

    a microphone located within the chamber;

    a speaker located within the chamber;

means for varying the distance between the microphone and the speaker;

a power source;

at least one connection port to facilitate communication between the interface device and a selected discrete Computer, the selected discrete computer being one of a plurality of different forms of computer capable of providing signals to the interface device and which can be processed by the interface device; and

a modem connected to the microphone and/or speaker as well as the connection port.

26. (Original) A communications interface device as claimed in claim 25 further comprising acoustic insulation members on the speaker and microphone.

27. (Original) A device as claimed in claim 25 wherein the power source comprises a battery located within the housing.

28. (Original) A device as claimed in claim 25 wherein the power source is external to the interface device, and the interface device further comprises an AC connector for receiving such power.

29. (Previously amended) A device as claimed in claim 25 wherein the connection port is selected from one or more of an infra red transceiver, a USB connector, and an RJ-11 connector.

30. (Canceled)

31. (Canceled)

32. (Original) A device as claimed in claim 25 further comprising attachment means on the exterior of the casing to facilitate attachment of the interface device.

33. (Currently amended) A communications interface comprising:  
interface means for processing signals between a selected discrete Computer and a selected discrete telephone;  
first connecting means connectable selectively to the selected discrete Computer and the interface means; and  
a second connecting means connectable selectively to the telephone and the interface means,

~~the selected discrete computer being one of a plurality of discrete computers selectively connectable to the first connecting means and the selected discrete telephone being one of a plurality of discrete telephones selectively connectable to the second connecting means~~

the selected discrete computer being one of a plurality of different forms of computer capable of providing signals to the interface means and which can be processed by the interface means, and the selected discrete telephone being one of a plurality of different forms of telephone capable of providing signals to the interface means and which can be processed by the interface means.

34. (Previously amended) A method for transferring signals between a selected discrete Computer and a selected discrete telephone, the method comprising:

providing interface means for processing signals received from the selected discrete Computer and the selected discrete telephone;  
connecting first connecting means to the interface means, the first connecting means being connectable selectively to the

selected discrete Computer so that signals can be transmitted between the first connecting means and the selected discrete Computer; and

connecting second connecting means to the interface means, the second connecting means being connectable to the selected discrete telephone so that signals can be transmitted between the second connecting means and the selected discrete telephone.

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE